

THE

GOLLIWOGG'S

POLAR

ADVENTURES.



BY

Frances K. Upton

VERSES BY *Bertha Upton*

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Dorothy Sever Murray
with love from
Father & Mother

Amas 1900 Swichburn Castle

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"You look astonished, Peg, my girl,
Go note our summer goal,
But just as sure as you stand there,
We'll find the great North Pole!

To reach it, you will have to climb
O'er fields of ice and snow
Where monstrous polar bears prowl round,
And lonely rivers flow.



Sarah and I have made our plans
To build a lovely boat,
She knows how strong it ought to be
On Arctic seas to float.

And while to this we give our minds,
There's work for you to do,
Since provender we'll have to take
To last the winter through."



The preparations now began,
Three bags of flour were sent;
To "hard-tack" Peggy gave her time,
With womanly intent.

Midget and Meg their needles swift
At once began to ply,
For Weg had bought all kinds of fur,
To keep them warm and dry.



A tiny sealskin coat and hat
For Sarah Jane they sewed,
Like those which in the grandest shops
They found to be the mode.

A tasselled cap and collarette
Gave Meg a jaunty air;
Like hooded friar Weg appeared,
The arctic cold to dare.

A miniature Red Riding Hood
The Midget chose to be;
Some cuttings left from Peggy's wrap
Were just enough, you see.

"O Golliwogg!" the children said,
"The Eskimos will stare!—
I hope they won't mistake *You* when
They shoot the polar bear!"



The boat is built, the travellers dress,
All joyful they embark;
Of whales and seals and walrus large,
The youngsters talk till dark.

Supplies of food are packed aboard,
Too busy they for speech,
Both Peg and Golliwogg work hard
To loose her from the beach.



"We must be getting near the pole!"
The merry children cried
"The channel has so narrow grown,
Our boat bumps on the side."

Then ever-willing Golliwogg
Jumped out to give a tow,
While Sarah Jane with ready oar,
Staved off too hard a blow.



But soon the ice closed all around,
The explorers disembarked,
Two picks were vigorously used,
Yet scarce its smoothness marked.

Said Peg, "Come children! let us run
To yonder ledge, where we
Perchance may spy from higher ground,
An opening to the sea."



Right merrily they ran along,
Higher their spirits rose,
Till suddenly they spied afar,
The tents of Eskimos.

A man appeared and waved his hand,
Then to his tent returned;
'Twixt fear and longing to get help,
Their hearts both beat and burned.



With trepidation they approach;
Peggy stutters as she seeks
To tell the Eskimos how they
Have sailed for many weeks

To try and find the big North Pole,
But now are frozen in,—
"You want a sled", the man replied
With many a nod and grin.



Then, while he'd gone to fetch them one,
Peg watched the firelight glow,
And smiled to see the children play
With "Baby Eskimo".

She promised to come back again
When they had found the Pole,
Then thanked them for such kindly help
With all her heart and soul.



In contrast to the happy crowd
 Within the settlement,
Two weary souls with tear-stained cheeks
 Dejectedly are bent;

While back to back, each tries to bear
 The knowledge of defeat.
"What shall we do! what shall we do!"
 They drearily repeat.



But soon their tears to smiles are turned,
Peg's welcome shout is heard,
And everything aboard the boat
Is joyfully transferred.

The sled is filled to spilling point,
Across the ice they go,
And when night falls, their tent is pitched
Upon the yielding snow.

"No callers we are like to have
Upon so cold a night,"
Said Peggy, as she closed the flap
And made things snug and tight.

But, children! don't you truly long
To see a polar bear?
To shoot him dead upon the spot
I *almost* think I'd dare!"



The stove they lit, then cooked the soup,
And were about to eat
When curious sounds were heard outside,
Like muffled, trampling feet;

The tent flap moved, their hearts stood still,
Their eyes could only stare!
For in the opening, appeared
A mighty polar bear!



That bear was slain by Golliwogg,
His skin supplied a mat,
And most delicious was his heart,
When fried in lots of fat.

Said Golliwogg, "It tastes so good,
I'll pass my plate up twice;
You carve right well, dear Sarah Jane,
Which makes it doubly nice."



Explorers need be brave of heart,
With eye fixed on the goal,-
And you perceive, through thick and thin
They mean to reach the pole.

Erstwhile the landscape's lost in fog,
More chance have they to think;
Of marvellous discoveries
They seem upon the brink.



"A seal! a seal!" cries Golliwogg,
"Quick, Peg, with that harpoon!
Stand back, girls, lest you get lassoed;
Now, Sir! I'll have you soon!"

Ah! what a glorious feast we'll have,
And every girl a coat!
-What noise is that, like cracking ice?
O for a boat! a boat!"



Wild screams that rend the arctic air,
From all but Sarah, come;
The horror of the moment seems
To make her fairly dumb.

But tho' she cannot speak, she runs;
Their leader she must save
Or e'er that treacherous piece of ice
Conducts to watery grave!



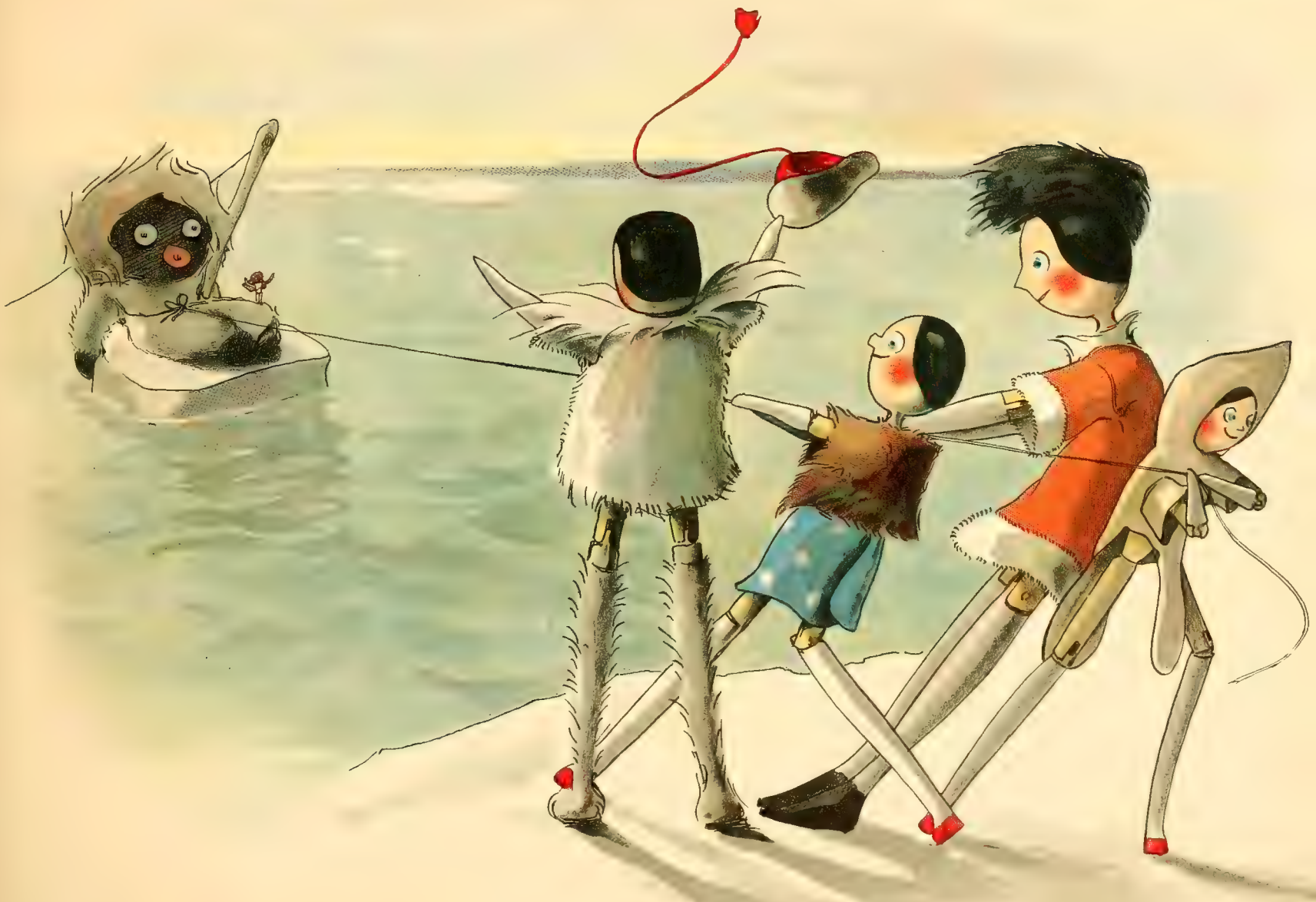
With fingers sure, she ties the rope
About the Midget's waist,
And on a smaller cake of ice
Her tiny form is placed.

"Hold on, dear Midget!" Peggy cries,
"You're always brave and true;
Oh, how I hope you'll float toward him,
Or he will drift toward you!"



So light her form, she adds no weight,
And very soon she's placed
The rope the girls are holding fast,
Around his ample waist.

And now begins the tug of war,
Each face with joy beams bright,
The Midget cautions Golliwogg
To hold on extra tight.



They pull and haul with every nerve,
They strain and puff and blow
Until their very finger tips
Like heated carbons glow.

Grim little Sarah does her part,
She never loosens hold,
The rope slides through her skilful hands
And on Weg's arm is rolled.

Meg pauses just to wave her cap
And shout encouragement
To Golliwogg, whose anxious eyes
Upon them all are bent.

The Midget cries, "Hurrah! Hurrah!
Ah! Now we touch the shore!
Dear Golliwogg! I beg you won't
Go "sealing" any more."



One night a mellow Arctic moon
Shed softest lustre round,
And when the Northern Lights blazed up,
Front seats they quickly found

"Bless me!" cries Meg "this surely is
The fireplace of the sky!"
"Perhaps they're fireworks," Midget pipes,
"See how they whizz and fly!"



"This is the very hardest point
We ever had to scale,"
Said Peg, appearing at the top,
Her rosy face quite pale.

"I've had hard work to keep our pack
From getting often spilled,
And truly 'tis a wonder great
That none of us were killed."



"Ha, ha!" laughed Weg, "don't boast at all
Until your bridge you've crossed;"
And then she held her sides and shrieked
To see how they were tossed.

Golliwogg got the benefit
Of all the dinner ware,
Poor Weg was caught beneath the sled;
Hers was the hardest fare.



To cross a strip of water wide
Without their little boat
Sets them to thinking how upon
An ice-raft they might float.

"Ah me!" says little Sarah Jane,
"This is a brilliant scheme,
How lucky that the water here
Seems always so serene."



No sooner was the thought expressed,
Than straight into the air
Went raft and sled and passengers
With screams of wild despair!

And through the ice he'd split apart,
A mighty walrus came,
His tusks he lashed from right to left,
His eyes seemed all aflame;



He bellowed as in awful rage,
Then disappeared from sight;
In frantic haste they swam to land,
Lest he should kill them quite.

The arctic waters froze them stiff,
They scarce could climb ashore,
And even as they touched the bank,
They heard that walrus roar.



Their pack was scattered far and wide,
Their nerves were all unstrung,
While round their coats a glistening fringe
Of icy pendants, hung.

Poor Peggy's limbs are stiff as wood,
Her eyes drop frozen tears,
'Tis all kind Golliwogg can do
To chase away their fears.



But 'tis not long ere he succeeds,
And to their great delight
Their baggage with the precious sled
Comes floating into sight.

Ah! 'twas a merry moment when
They got that pack ashore,
And drying things as best they could,
Headed to north once more.

A sportsman little Sarah turns,
For how would gull-pie taste?
Intent on this she takes the gun
And disappears in haste.

Had Golliwogg not come in time,
Responsive to her cry,
Methinks of little Sarah Jane,
Those gulls had made the pie!



"I seem to feel our travel's o'er,"
Said Golliwogg, one morn;
"For, modern science to assist,
I'm sure that I was born!

Thus, unresistingly I go
To find at last our goal:
Ah! dearest girls! our journey's done!.
Behold the Pole! the Pole!"



"Much faster moves the earth just here,
So come and form a ring;
With dance and song we'll celebrate
The most successful thing


Our travels e'er accomplished yet:
Now sing with all your might!
We've reached the axis of the earth,
And find it snug and tight."



"Farewell, North Pole! We're going back
To let the children know
A problem old is newly solved
By Golliwogg and Co."

Ere many moons our friends reach home
And settle down to see
How they may find fresh food for fun,
To pleasure you and me.

Bertha Upton



THIS POLE HAS
BEEN DISCOVERED
BY
Sollinogo
PEGGY
SARAH JANE
MEG & WENDY
& THE MIDGET.





AC/ADL





